Modernisation of Khadi textiles

2549. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :
SHRIMATIN.RDURGA:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government have taken to improve and modernize Khadi Textiles for better acceptability and popularity;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have signed an MoU with the Textiles Committee to make available laboratories for quality testing and certification of Khadi products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM) : (a) To improve and modernize Khadi textiles for better acceptability and popularity, the KVIC has taken a number of steps such as setting up of silver plants for supplying quality silver, availing expertise from Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) like Dastkar Andhra and Rural Development Agency (RUDA), Rajasthan, for improvement of the quality as well as imparting training to Khadi artisans, tie-up arrangements with the National Institute of Design (NID),Ahmedabad and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) for developing better designs, fashions etc. in Khadi textiles; launching of "Stiff and Soft" finishing process of Khadi cloth with the help of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

(b) and (c) KVIC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Textiles Committee (TC) to make their laboratories available for quality testing/certification of Khadi products. The MoU, *inter-alia* provides for the TC to provide testing facilities to Khadi institutions, undertake market surveys, provide technical consultancy for ISO 9000 and to evolve systems to differentiate Khadi from other textiles. The KVIC will provide finance, logistic support and all other assistance for successful implementation of the MoU.

Expansion of oil production industries

† 2550. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.